MARVEL COMICS
SUMMER 1992
1
SALES TO
ASTONISH
THE COMIC BOOK
RISE OF THE MIDNIGHT SONS
INSIDE: GET THE LOWDOWN ON SPIDEY'S 30TH BIRTHDAY BASH!
ALSO, A COMPLETE THE INFINITY WAR CROSSOVER CHECKLIST
SPIDER-MAN 30th ANNIVERSARY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR
FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD. . .

SPIDER-MAN®

JOIN THE CELEBRATION IN :

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #189

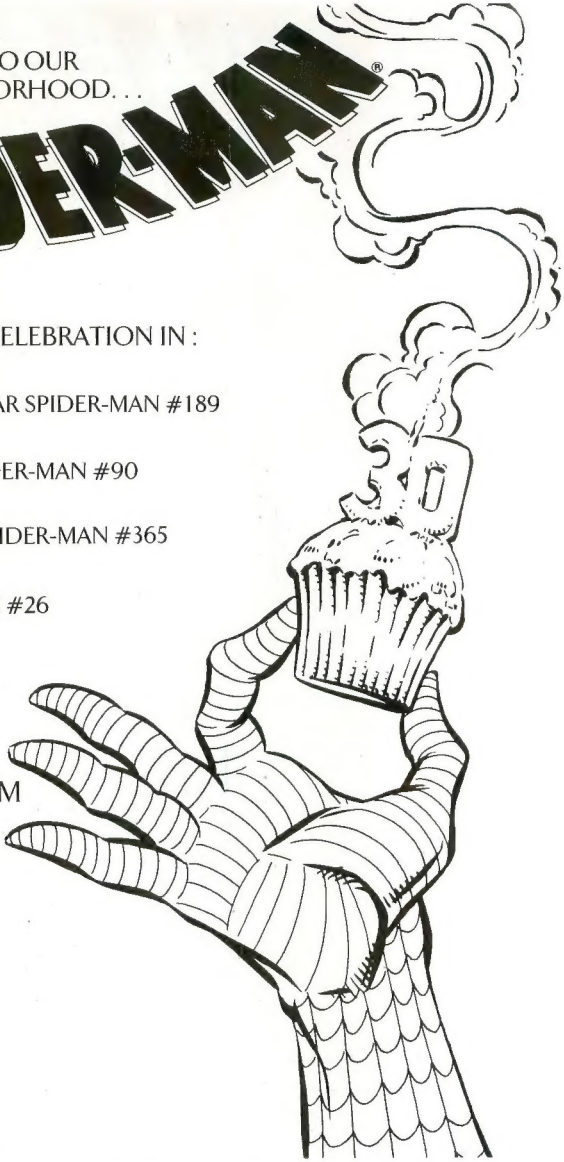
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #90

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #365

SPIDER-MAN #26

SPECIAL
HOLOGRAM
COVERS

BONUS
POSTER
INSERTS



MARVEL® COMICS

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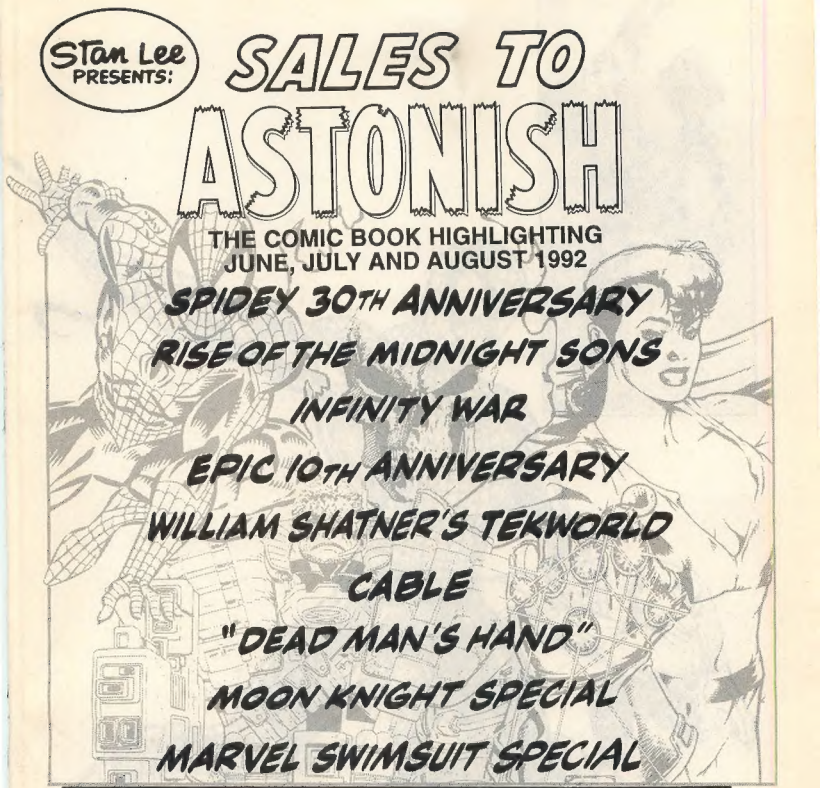

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EPIC COMICS®

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SPIDER-MAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Top: Sculpture to be used for the hologram for ***SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #189***
Above: Mark Bagley's artwork to be translated into the sculpture for the hologram for ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #365***

SPIDER-MAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

It's hard to believe that it's only been thirty years since that radioactive spider bite changed comic books for all time. 1992 marks Spidey's 30th Anniversary, bringing more Spider-Man product to your customers and more profitability to you. Spider-Man is a very special character. There's something in him that all of us can identify with. Perhaps this is the reason for his amazing popularity. Counting all of his titles and guest appearances, Spider-Man has been in more comic books than any other character. At Marvel, we're doing our best to ensure that you can share in the excitement, and profits, that Spider-Man's 30th Anniversary is sure to generate. Here's how it will work:

First, to commemorate such a great milestone in Marvel history, we will release one each of four special edition Spider-Man comics in the months of April, May, June and July. Each special will feature a different 4" x 5" hologram of Spider-Man on the squarebound card stock cover, with a gatefold poster and a bonus look at the origin of Spider-Man as seen by major characters in Peter Parker's life. Most of the specials are 48 pages, while the special edition of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #365 is a whopping 80 pages.

The first commemorative edition is SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #189, shipping in April. This issue features the culmination of the Green Goblin story line from the "Child Within" arc, featuring the Goblin, as well as Spider-Man's origin as seen through the eyes of Aunt May. SPECTACULAR #189 is written by J.M. DeMatteis and drawn by Sal Buscema and features a gatefold poster painted by Charles Vess.

In May, WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #90 ships. Howard (GHOST RIDER, MCP) Mackie weaves a clever story featuring Mysterio, and through the use of his illusions we see significant stories in Spidey's life. The focus of the origin aspect will be seen through the eyes of Spidey's agent during his short-lived show biz career. The breathtaking art is by Alex Saviuk and Sam DeLaRosa and the gatefold poster is by Rick Leonardi.

July's SPIDER-MAN #26 features a tale by Tom DeFalco with pencils by Ron Frenz and inks by Erik Larsen. Tom tells us the origin story will present Spidey's beginnings as seen from Peter's point of view.

Perhaps the most exciting of the special editions is in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, since its 365th issue marks the actual date of Spider-Man's 30th Anniversary, based on the publication of AMAZING FANTASY #15. Shipping in the second week of June, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #365, has a tremendous 80 pages and contains a 30-page lead story by David Michelinie, Mark Bagley, and Randy Emberlin featuring the return of the Lizard, as well as the most shocking revelation of Spidey's life! The special back-up origin story is seen through the eyes of J. Jonah Jameson, and is also written by David Michelinie. The gatefold poster is by John Romita Jr.

SPIDER-MAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Top: Cover to ***SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #12***
Inset: Cover to ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #26***
Bottom: Cover to ***WEB OF SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #8***

SPIDER-MAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The celebration, and the products, don't stop there. June will also feature the run of this year's Spider-Man Annuals, all three written by David Michelinie, in a story line entitled "The Hero Killers" that will conclude in July's NEW WARRIORS ANNUAL. The three Spidey annuals are drawn by Scott McDaniel, a hot newcomer who is best known for his work on the SPIDER-MAN back-up stories that appeared during the "Revenge of the Sinister Six" storyline. This story line, teaming Spidey with the New Warriors, features the villainy of many of Spidey's deadliest foes, the menace of the Dreadnoughts, the super menace of the Super-Dreadnoughts and the return of a much requested major Marvel villain. Who? It's a surprise! Also, each of the three annuals contain one installment of a three part Venom story by Michelinie and Aaron Lopresti.

In August, we are very proud to present the SOUL OF THE HUNTER one-shot bookshelf. This is the sequel to the very popular "Kraven's Last Hunt" story line in which Peter comes to grips with the death of Kraven as he is haunted by his ghost. This very powerful story is brought to you by the same creative team that made "Kraven" such a huge hit: J.M. DeMatteis, Mike Zeck and Bob McLeod. This one is sure to be an instant sellout. In September we are offering the ORIGIN OF THE HOBGOBLIN TPB, representing the classic story of the Hobgoblin by Tom DeFalco, Roger Stern, John Romita Jr. and Ron Frenz from the pages of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

To help encourage sales in your store, Marvel will provide you with promotional posters, such as the Spider-Man 30th Anniversary Poster and other items aimed at enhancing your Spidey sales. In addition to all of the Spidey art and logo in the "Do-It-Yourself Co-op Kit," there also are two special Spidey 30th co-op ads in the January and May editions of SALES TO ASTONISH so that you can let everyone in you town know that your store is the place to get everything Spidey. In addition, as a special gift for retailers, Marvel will be offering an extremely rugged, leather-bottomed, high quality back pack, at cost, to those who order 50 or more copies of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #365. It will be beautifully embroidered with a stylish piece of Spider-Man artwork.

All of us here at Marvel are looking forward to the release of the Spider-Man movie in summer 1994, written and directed by James (ALIENS, TERMINATOR) Cameron, with its rumored operating budget of at least $50 million. It should not only create a huge Spider-phenomenon, but will also bring a whole new customer base into your store.

Just what is the secret of Spidey's continued appeal? Spidey-editor Danny Fingeroth hazards a guess: "In an era when heroic values seem to be constantly redefined and have doubt cast upon them, Spider-Man is the bright, shining ideal of a regular guy who gets superhuman powers and uses them to do the right thing. He does it not because he's better than us, but because the one time he didn't do the right thing the consequences were disastrous. He does the right thing—even in today's sometimes bleak world—and continually rises above the evil he is compelled to fight. He's you and me at our best, not perfect, but at our best."

SPIDER-MAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Above: Art and cover painting from ***SPIDER-MAN: SOUL OF THE HUNTER*** *by Mike Zeck and Bob McLeod*

SPIDER-MAN

SPIDER-MAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY CHECKLIST

JUNE—

SPECIAL AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #365
DAVID MICHELINIE/MARK BAGLEY/RANDY EMBERLIN
SHIPPING JUNE 9TH FROM RONALDS
80-PAGE OFFSET FORMAT, WITH POSTER & HOLOGRAM, PRICED AT $3.95

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #26
DAVID MICHELINIE/SCOTT MCDANIEL/KEITH WILLIAMS
SHIPPING JUNE 16TH FROM RONALDS
64-PAGE LETTERPRESS FORMAT, PRICED AT $2.25

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #12
DAVID MICHELINIE/SCOTT MCDANIEL/KEITH WILLIAMS
SHIPPING JUNE 23RD FROM WORLD COLOR PRESS
64-PAGE LETTERPRESS FORMAT, PRICED AT $2.25

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #8
DAVID MICHELINIE/SCOTT MCDANIEL/KEITH WILLIAMS
SHIPPING JUNE 30TH FROM WORLD COLOR PRESS
64-PAGE LETTERPRESS FORMAT, PRICED AT $2.25

JULY—

SPECIAL SPIDER-MAN #26
TOM DEFALCO/RON FRENZ/ERIK LARSEN
SHIPPING JULY 21ST FROM RONALDS
48-PAGE OFFSET FORMAT, WITH POSTER & HOLOGRAM, PRICED AT $2.95

AUGUST—

SOUL OF THE HUNTER
J.M. DEMATTEIS/MIKE ZECK/BOB MCLEOD
SHIPPING AUGUST 4TH FROM RINGIER
48-PAGE BOOKSHELF FORMAT,
PRICED AT $5.95

SEPTEMBER—

SPIDER-MAN: ORIGIN OF THE HOBGOBLIN
TOM DEFALCO & ROGER STERN/
JOHN ROMITA JR & RON FRENZ
SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 8TH FROM RINGIER
160-PAGE TRADE PAPERBACK,
PRICED AT $14.95

RISE OF THE MIDNIGHT SONS

Above: Cover to ***GHOST RIDER #28*** *by Andy Kubert and Joe Kubert*

RISE OF THE MIDNIGHT SONS

BEGINNING IN GHOST RIDER #28
HOWARD MACKIE/ANDY KUBERT AND JOE KUBERT
SHIPPING JUNE 9TH FROM RONALDS
32-PAGE OFFSET, BAGGED W/POSTER, W/GATEFOLD CENTER SPREAD, PRICED AT $2.50

Building on the incredible success of the monthly Ghost Rider title, and such popular family groupings as the X-Men and Spider-Man lines, Marvel is launching 4 new super hero/horror titles out of Ghost Rider—SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE, MORBIUS, DARKHOLD, and NIGHTSTALKERS. All the titles are based on popular characters and mythos from the Marvel Universe. SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE features John Blaze, spun out of the original and current GHOST RIDER titles, and Ghost Rider in a team-up book. Morbius is being revamped in the same vein that Ghost Rider so successfully was. The Darkhold pages are springing from the world of Dr. Strange, and the Nightstalkers come straight from a recent popular stint in the TOMB OF DRACULA limited series.

The Rise of the Midnight Sons begins in June when Lilith arrives on Earth. Lilith is incredibly beautiful and she is also the most deadly female ever to set foot in a comic book. Lilith gains even more power as her followers, such as the notorious Deathwatch, commit even more hideous acts of evil. Lilith was trapped in the belly of a whale by the original Atlanteans centuries ago. After she is freed by explorers in the Arctic, land of the Midnight Sun, she has a vision that her followers will be destroyed by the power of the Midnight Sons, the heroes of all 5 series.

Lilith gains more power by weakening other-dimensional borders and allowing her supernatural horror children, "Lilin," to enter the Marvel Universe. The horror begins in GHOST RIDER #28, continues into a six-issue crossover in SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #1, MORBIUS #1, DARKHOLD #1, and NIGHTSTALKERS #1, and comes to a dramatic finale in GHOST RIDER #31, in which Dr. Strange displays his well-known supernatural talents. Other issues that play less important roles in this saga are GHOST RIDER #29 and 30 and SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #2 and 3, but readers won't have to read them in order to follow the Midnight Sons story line.

Crossovers have been incredibly popular in the Marvel Universe. Now you can get your customers interested in four new titles as they read the Rise of the Midnight Sons saga. Fans have reacted positively to the recent revamping of old Marvel characters, such as Punisher, Deathlok, and Cage. Now you can use the success of the new Ghost Rider to interest customers in these titles. Customers who purchase Epic's Clive Barker titles, SANDMAN, HELLBLAZER, or DR. STRANGE are a natural audience for all these titles, to say nothing of regular GHOST RIDER readers!

To get customers excited about the Rise of the Midnight Sons each of the titles involved in the crossover will be polybagged, and will contain a poster by Andy and Adam Kubert. Each poster will feature the characters of the title and every poster will stand alone, but for those customers who purchase every issue the poster will form a massive panorama featuring all of the heroes of the Midnight Sons.

RISE OF THE MIDNIGHT SONS

Above: Cover to ***SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE*** *#1 by Adam Kubert*
Opposite: Promotional art by Adam Kubert and Andy Kubert

GHOST RIDER/BLAZE
SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE

RISE OF THE MIDNIGHT SONS

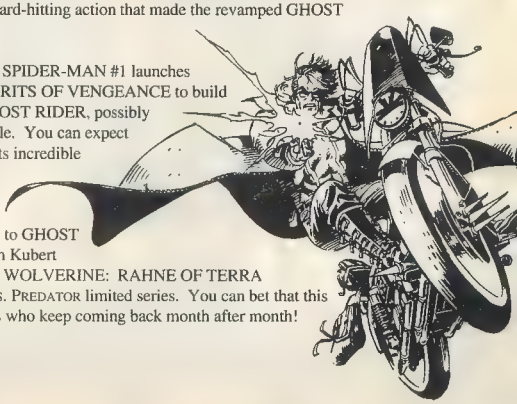
SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #1
HOWARD MACKIE/ADAM KUBERT
SHIPPING JUNE 30TH FROM RONALDS
48-PAGE OFFSET FORMAT, BAGGED WITH POSTER, PRICED AT $2.75

When John Blaze arrived back on the scene in GHOST RIDER #13 sales rocketed, and readers demanded more. Now they'll have more Blaze every month when they pick up SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE. Written by fan favorite Howard Mackie and illustrated by Adam Kubert, SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE will have your customers on the edge of their seats month after month.

Every issue will reveal more about the ever-interesting John Blaze. John is the owner of the Quentin Carnival. One of his employees is Clara, the psychic, who reveals that John is a focal point for magic, attracting both good and evil. When John's son is kidnapped by demons, he is forced to hunt down the kidnappers with the help of the Ghost Rider. Because John has so much experience with the supernatural he becomes a mentor to the new Ghost Rider. But when the fighting gets rough it's the Ghost Rider who takes all the heat. Not that John's a wimp—any guy with a sawed-off hellfire-blazing shotgun, and a mystical bike, is worth steering clear of!

The kidnapping ties into the six-part Rise of the Midnight Sons saga in which Blaze and his various allies strive to stop the rising tide of evil caused by Lilith and her helpers. After the crossover concludes, John and the colorful members of the Quentin Carnival will travel from town to town, and John and his friends will confront some of the strangest and most horrifying evils ever seen. Every month readers will enjoy the same hard-hitting action that made the revamped GHOST RIDER a major hit.

Just as the recent X-MEN #1 and SPIDER-MAN #1 launches were runaway successes, expect SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE to build into a very popular extension of GHOST RIDER, possibly even more popular than its parent title. You can expect enthusiasm for this title because of its incredible creative team. Howard Mackie will write SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE every month and bring the same excitement to every page that he has to GHOST RIDER for the last two years. Adam Kubert will be coming off a very successful WOLVERINE: RAHNE OF TERRA bookshelf comic and the BATMAN VS. PREDATOR limited series. You can bet that this team has surprises galore for readers who keep coming back month after month!



RISE OF THE MIDNIGHT SONS

Above: Cover to MORBIUS #1 by Ron Wagner

RISE OF THE MIDNIGHT SONS

MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE #1
LEN KAMINSKI/RON WAGNER/
SHIPPING JULY 21ST FROM RONALDS
48-PAGE OFFSET FORMAT, BAGGED WITH POSTER, PRICED AT $2.75

In the same way Punisher came out of Spider-Man's books, Morbius will be benefitting from the sales power of both Ghost Rider and Spider-Man when he launches his own monthly title.

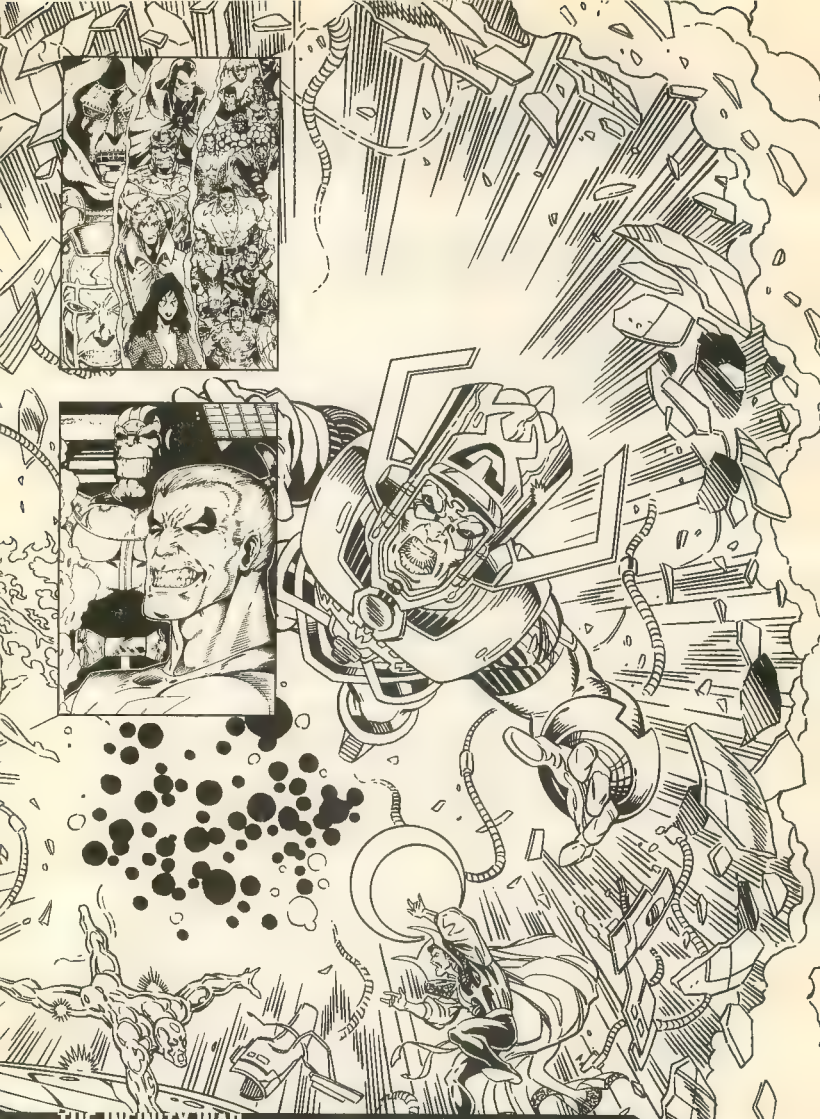
Morbius had a successful series in the '70s and now his look, motivation, and location are being totally revamped to create an exciting new character. The new Morbius has been created along the same lines as the new vengeance-seeking Ghost Rider. But where Ghost Rider attacks those who spill the blood of innocents, Morbius drinks the blood of the guilty. A little blood-thirsty? You bet.

Morbius is once again a living vampire, and he enlists the aid of his colleague, Dr. Jacob Weisenthal, to give him a cover identity. Plastic surgery and a special serum allow Morbius to spend his days as the human Dr. Morgan Michaels. His evenings are schizophrenic to the max as he becomes again a tortured soul.

After teaming up with Ghost Rider during the Rise of the Midnight Sons this summer, Morbius will find he is being stalked by the government. After all, who would make better soldiers than a breed of man who can feast on his enemies? Considering Morbius's colorful history, readers won't be surprised when guest stars like Spider-Man, the Punisher, and Wolverine show up. While Morbius will often find himself up against supernatural and scientific foes, he will be planted firmly in the Marvel Universe. MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE should be one of the most popular new titles of the year.

MORBIUS's creative team is made up of veterans of popular Marvel titles. Len Kaminski is writing IRON MAN and the upcoming SLAPSTICK limited series from Marvel, and he wrote the popular Werewolf by Night stories in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. Customers will recognize penciler Ron Wagner's work from GHOST RIDER, PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL, G.I. JOE , and NTH MAN.

The Punisher began the trend, and Ghost Rider and Deathlok continued it. Morbius will be the latest in the string of successful revivals of '70s characters. In addition to being sought out by GHOST RIDER, DR. STRANGE, and SPIDER-MAN fans, the comic book will also fascinate readers of VAMPIRE LESTAT. GHOST RIDER spin-off or cult favorite character; however you describe MORBIUS, it's sure to be a hit!



THE INFINITY WAR

Above: Art from the gatefold cover to ***INFINITY WAR #3*** *by Ron Lim and Al Milgrom.*

THE INFINITY WAR

JIM STARLIN/RON LIM/AL MILGROM
SHIPPING IN FOURTH WEEKS FROM WORLD COLOR PRESS
6 ISSUE LIMITED SERIES BEGINNING IN APRIL
48-PAGE OFFSET FORMAT, WITH GATEFOLD COVERS, PRICED AT $2.50

It started with the now-legendary SILVER SURFER #50, continued on to a six-issue limited series that topped all previous crossover limited series, and it concluded in the spectacular premiere of one of Marvel's most hotly awaited monthly titles, WARLOCK AND THE INFINITY WATCH. Of course, what we're talking about is THE INFINITY GAUNTLET, and if you think we can't do anything to top it this year, then you have yet to hear about THE INFINITY WAR! Starting in April, writer Jim Starlin, penciler Ron Lim and inker Al Milgrom pick up where they left off last October in a six-issue series that is eagerly awaited by your customers.

The Magus, Adam Warlock's arch-nemesis from the '70's, is back to take his revenge on Warlock, recover his lost glory and take over the universe along the way. And at the same time, evil doppelgangers of Earth's heroes show up to steal the identities of their legitimate counterparts. Some heroes win, others lose. Reed Richards discovers the plot, but just how many of his "friends" are not quite who or what they appear to be?

Instead of a one-front struggle like the INFINITY GAUNTLET, the INFINITY WAR will be spread out all over the cosmos, with three different battle fronts converging in the climactic last issue! Galactus and his herald Nova team up with Dr. Strange and the Silver Surfer to find and try to stop the Magus. At the same time Adam Warlock and his Infinity Watch team try to protect the universe by enlisting a very surprising ally—Thanos! Meanwhile, all of Earth's heroes are busy going after their evil doppelgangers. And just to throw a little monkey wrench into everyone's plans, the time-traveling Kang and the classic Marvel villain Dr. Doom forge an alliance that could decide the final outcome of the WAR.

All 6 issues take place in two incredibly fast-paced days. The ramifications of this classic will be real. And every issue of INFINITY WAR will feature a gatefold cover!

Guest stars? We've got your guest stars right here! How about Thanos, Adam Warlock, the X-Men, the Avengers, the Fantastic Four, Silver Surfer, Daredevil, X-Factor, New Warriors, and the Incredible Hulk and more?! And that's just in the INFINITY WAR title! There will also be well over 35 cross-over issues for your customers and for add-on sales for you. (See a full checklist of the crossover titles on the next page.) Remember how well last year's crossover titles like SILVER SURFER, DR. STRANGE, and QUASAR did when you order.

THE INFINITY WAR

Top: Cover to ***ALPHA FLIGHT #111***
Middle: Cover to ***MOON KNIGHT #41***
Bottom: Art from ***WARLOCK #8***

Inset: Art from ***WARLOCK #8***
Opposite: Art from ***INFINITY WAR #1***

THE INFINITY WAR
COMPLETE CROSSOVER CHECKLIST

APRIL—
- DOCTOR STRANGE #42
- INFINITY WAR #1

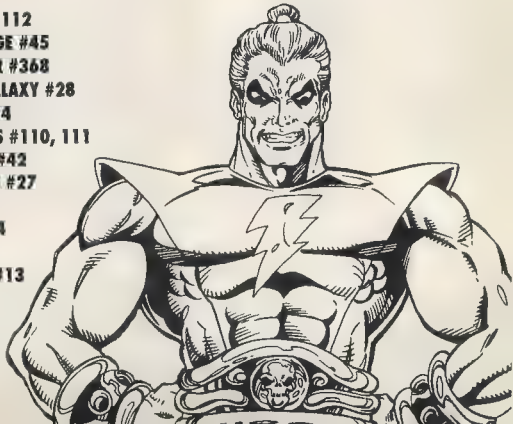
MAY—
- ALPHA FLIGHT #110
- DOCTOR STRANGE #43
- FANTASTIC FOUR #366
- INFINITY WAR #2
- SILVER SURFER #67, 68
- SPIDER-MAN #24

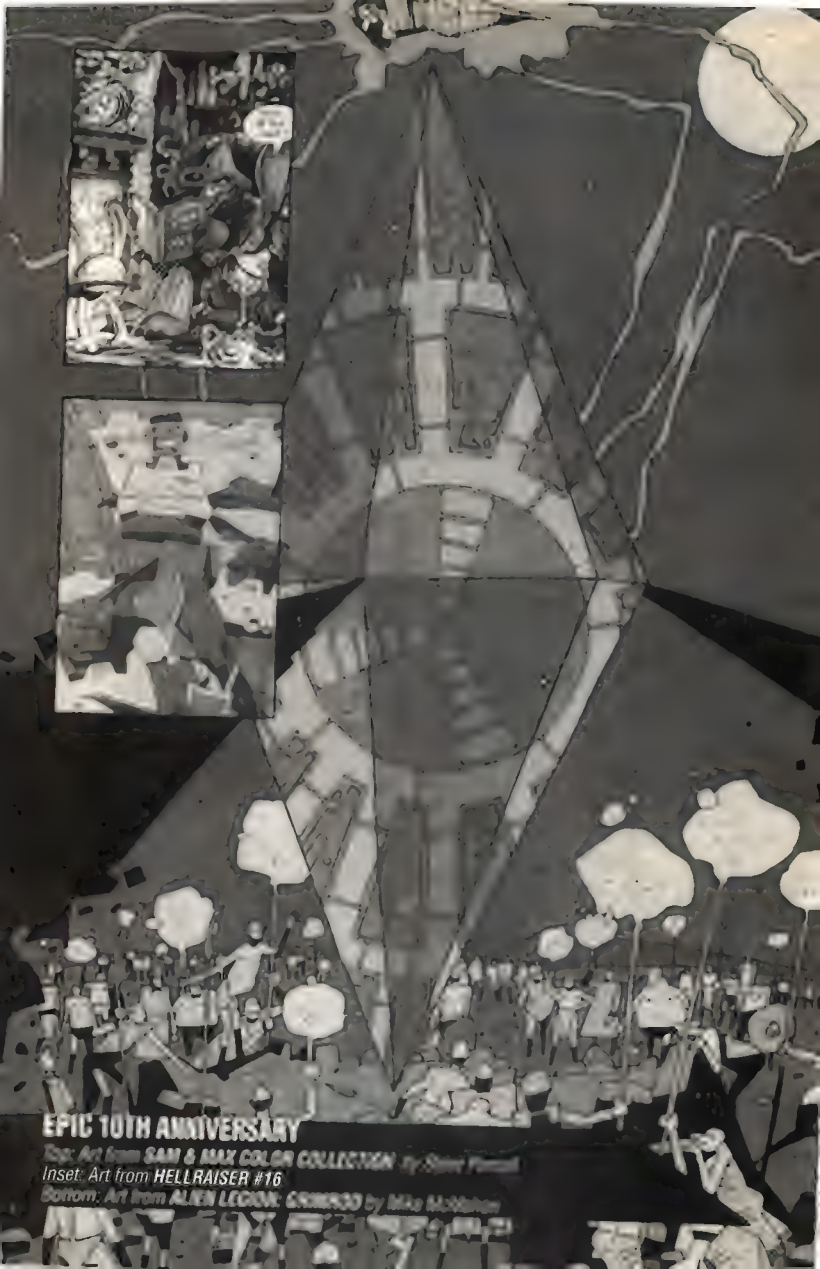
JUNE—
- ALPHA FLIGHT #111
- DOCTOR STRANGE #44
- FANTASTIC FOUR #367
- GUARDIANS/GALAXY #27
- INFINITY WAR #3
- MARVEL COMICS #108, 109
- MOON KNIGHT #41
- QUASAR #37
- SILVER SURFER #69

JULY—
- ALPHA FLIGHT #112
- DOCTOR STRANGE #45
- FANTASTIC FOUR #368
- GUARDIANS/GALAXY #28
- INFINITY WAR #4
- MARVEL COMICS #110, 111
- MOON KNIGHT #42
- NEW WARRIORS #27
- QUASAR #38
- SILVER SABLE #4
- WARLOCK #8
- WONDER MAN #13

AUGUST—
- DEATHLOK #16
- DOCTOR STRANGE #46
- FANTASTIC FOUR #369
- INFINITY WAR #5
- GUARDIANS/GALAXY #29
- MOON KNIGHT #43
- QUASAR #39
- SILVER SABLE #5
- WARLOCK #9
- WONDER MAN #14

SEPTEMBER—
- DOCTOR STRANGE #47
- FANTASTIC FOUR #370
- INFINITY WAR #6
- NOMAD #7
- SLEEPWALKER #18
- WARLOCK #10
- WONDER MAN #15





EPIC 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Top: Art from **SAM & MAX COLOR COLLECTION** *by Steve Purcell*
Inset: Art from **HELLRAISER #16**
Bottom: Art from **ALIEN LEGION: GRIMROD** *by Mike Mahlstedt*

EPIC 10TH ANNIVERSARY

1992 is Epic's most exciting year. In its 10th Anniversary, Epic plans more books and more different kinds of books to help you reach out to more customers.

In addition to the monthly and bimonthly books already being published, including GROO, NIGHTBREED, AKIRA and HELLRAISER, Epic is proud to announce that it will add a series based on William Shatner's best-selling TEKWORLD novels. After adapting the first novel, Shatner and regular scripter Ron Goulart and artist Lee Sullivan will collaborate to create new material for the series. Soon after, the second novel will be adapted, to be followed by more original stories. When the upcoming third novel is released, it too will be adapted. (There's more info on TEKWORLD later in this issue!) Also, the EPIC ANTHOLOGY will be reaching its conclusion this summer with Epic #4. As you may know, the EPIC ANTHOLOGY is a 4-issue limited series. Each issue is a bookshelf comic containing 48-pages of stories from Nightbreed, Wild Cards, Stalkers and Sleeze Brothers.

It's summertime, and what better way to beat the heat than to read more stories about Clive Barker's view of hell in the HELLRAISER SUMMER SPECIAL? Everybody's favorite Pinheads, Cenobites and obsessive puzzle-solvers are at it again in this one-shot that will comes on the heels of the Hellraiser III movie and our own HELLRAISER III MOVIE ADAPTATION.

A sure-fire hit this summer is the Alien Legion Special spotlighting Nomad Squadron's most popular member, Grimrod, in the ALIEN LEGION: GRIMROD bookshelf one-shot. This one is sure to be a hit with all of your AL fans, and because of the tough, rugged, no-nonsense character of Grimrod and the fast pace of the hard-hitting adventure.

There is another Sam & Max one-shot from Steve Purcell. The dog and rabbit detectives are at it again in the hilarious SAM & MAX COLOR COLLECTION. Fast on the heels of FAREWELL TO WEAPONS, Epic is bringing you MEMORIES, another Otomo one-shot classic, as well as ONYX OVERLORD, Moebius's sequel to his "Airtight Garage" epic starring Major Grubert.

Epic holds a unique position in the comic book industry. It is one of the oldest imprints to publish creator-owned work.

Marvel has always been dedicated to fully supporting the Epic line. We'll be sending free promotional posters as well as offering attractive cooperative advertising opportunities. And, as a special offer to retailers, we're offering attractive, high quality leather planners at cost to those who order at least 25 copies of Epic #1 in April.

"Epic has the best editorial people in the industry," says Executive Editor Carl Potts. He considers 1992 to be a milestone year for the Epic Imprint. "We're putting out more titles and a wider variety of genres than ever before. Epic is expanding and will continue to publish experimental and diverse works." To see just how diverse, turn the page.

SAM & MAX ™ & © 1992 Steve Purcell
HELLRAISER ™ & © 1992 Clive Barker
ALIEN LEGION ™ & © 1992 Adventure Graphics

EPIC 10TH ANNIVERSARY!

Top: Art from the "Daddy & Pussy" story in **EPIC** *#3 by Arthur Suydam*
Inset: Cover to **ONYX OVERLORD** *#1 by Jerry Bingham*
Bottom: Art from **MEMORIES** *by Otomo*

EPIC 10TH ANNIVERSARY CHECKLIST

JUNE—

GROO THE WANDERER #92
CLIVE BARKER'S NIGHTBREED #18
AKIRA #36
EPIC #3
CLIVE BARKER'S HELLRAISER #15

JULY—

GROO THE WANDERER #93
AKIRA #37
EPIC#4
CLIVE BARKER'S NIGHTBREED #19
SAM & MAX SPECIFIC COLOR COLLECTION
ONE-SHOT 64-PAGE BOOKSHELF PRICED AT $4.50
CLIVE BARKER'S HELLRAISER SUMMER SPECIAL 1992
64 PAGE BOOKSHELF PRICED AT $5.95
WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD #1
32-PAGE MONTHLY OFFSET COMIC PRICED AT $1.50

AUGUST—

GROO #94
AKIRA #38 (CLUB ISSUE)
CLIVE BARKER'S HELLRAISER #16
AKIRA #6 TPB
CLIVE BARKER'S NIGHTBREED #20
ALIEN LEGION: GRIMROD
ONE-SHOT 48-PAGE BOOKSHELF FORMAT PRICED AT $4.95
MEMORIES
ONE SHOT 32-PAGE OFFSET COMIC PRICED AT $2.25
METROPOL III #1
3 ISSUE LIMITED SERIES
32-PAGE OFFSET COMIC PRICED AT $2.95
ONYX OVERLORD #1
4 ISSUE LIMITED SERIES
32-PAGE OFFSET COMIC PRICED AT $2.50

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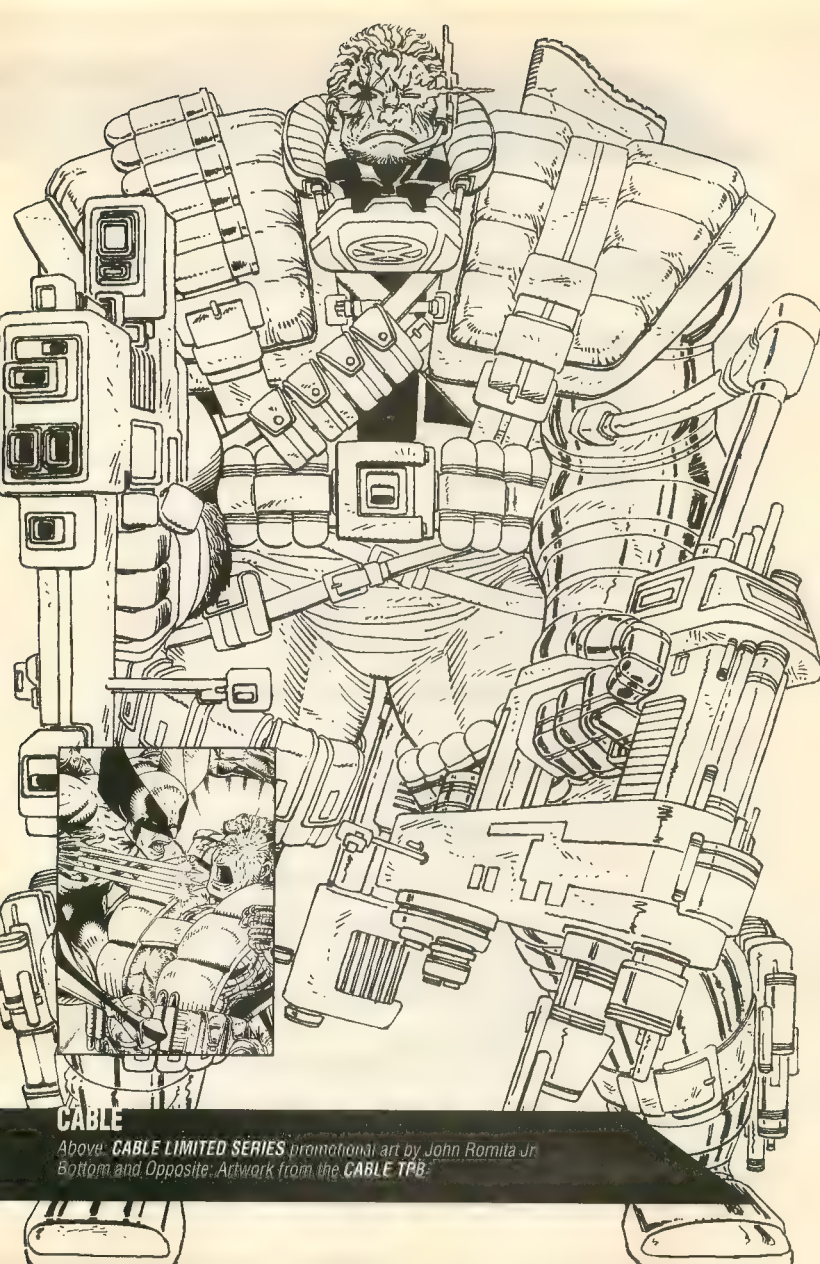
CHOLLY & FLYTRAP ™ & © 1992 Arthur Suydam
MEMORIES ™ & © 1992 MASH-ROOM Inc



CABLE

Above: ***CABLE LIMITED SERIES*** *promotional art by John Romita Jr.*
Bottom and Opposite: Artwork from the ***CABLE TPB.***

CABLE

CABLE
FABIAN NICIEZA/JOHN ROMITA JR.
SHIPPING IN FOURTH WEEKS FROM WORLD COLOR PRESS
2 ISSUE LIMITED SERIES BEGINNING IN AUGUST
48-PAGE BOOKSHELF COMIC, PRICED AT $4.95

CABLE TPB
LOUISE SIMONSON/ROB LIEFELD
SHIPPING JULY 7TH FROM RINGIER
176-PAGE TRADE PAPERBACK, PRICED AT $13.95

Cable is one of the hottest, most popular, and most sought-after Marvel character in your store right now. To meet all of that consumer demand, this summer Marvel is unleashing not one, but two Cable projects, the long-awaited and all-new two-issue CABLE limited series as well as the must-have CABLE TPB, presenting Cable's early appearances.

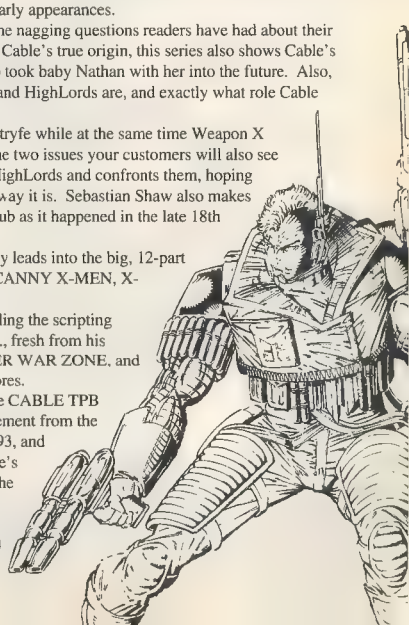
The CABLE limited series will answer many of the nagging questions readers have had about their favorite mysterious mutant. In addition to revealing Cable's true origin, this series also shows Cable's world and tells the secret of Askani, the woman who took baby Nathan with her into the future. Also, readers will also find out who and what the Chosen and HighLords are, and exactly what role Cable himself played in the origin of Apocalypse.

The action starts as Cable decides to hunt down Stryfe while at the same time Weapon X decides to hunt down Cable. During the course of the two issues your customers will also see Cable's forays into time as he searches for various HighLords and confronts them, hoping to eliminate the one who caused his world to be the way it is. Sebastian Shaw also makes an appearance as we see the origin of the Hellfire Club as it happened in the late 18th century.

The shattering ending of this limited series directly leads into the big, 12-part mutant crossover this fall, connecting X-MEN, UNCANNY X-MEN, X-FACTOR, and X-FORCE for three months.

Regular X-FORCE writer Fabian Nicieza is handling the scripting chores on this hot limited series and, John Romita Jr., fresh from his successes on HEARTS OF DARKNESS, PUNISHER WAR ZONE, and UNCANNY X-MEN is capably handling the art chores.

As the perfect companion to the limited series, the CABLE TPB will bring your customers all of the action and excitement from the hard-to-find NEW MUTANTS #87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 93, and 94. This very special trade paperback contains Cable's first appearance, and features his first adventures as he and his New Mutants take on such foes as Stryfe, Sabretooth, Freedom Force, and the one and only Wolverine!



WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEK WORLD

Above & Opposite: Promotional art to ***WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD***
by Lee Sullivan

EPIC COMICS 10™ ANNIVERSARY

WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD

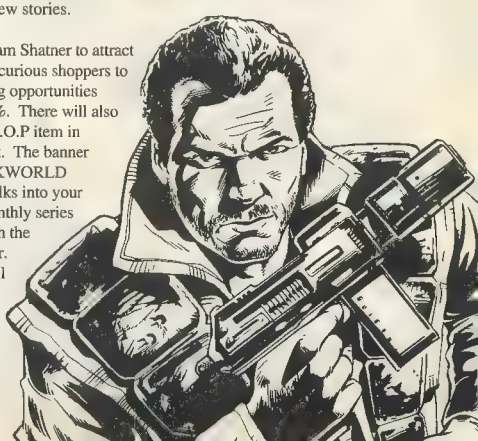
WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD #1
RON GOULART/LEE SULLIVAN
SHIPPING JULY 28TH FROM RONALDS
32 PAGE OFFSET FORMAT, PRICED AT $1.50

William Shatner's best selling science fiction novel, TEKWAR, comes to Epic Comics in a new monthly series entitled TEKWORLD. Set in 2120 around the greater Los Angeles area, TEKWORLD's gritty, film-noir reality will mesmerize readers and keep them coming back for more! And with William Shatner's name associated to this new title, fans of science fiction as well as your usual comic book customers will be demanding their copies each and every month.

TEKWORLD, described by its editor as a kind of combination of Dashiell Hammett and BLADERUNNER, is about ex-cop Jake Cardigan, who was framed for dealing an addictive brain stimulant called "Tek." After serving four years of a fifteen year sentence of suspended animation, Jake is mysteriously released and is out for revenge! Jake begins his search by returning to LA, where he is hired by Cosmos Detective Agency. His first assignment is to locate an anti-Tek device that has been stolen by a prominent scientist.

Under the skillful eye of creative consultant William Shatner, popular science fiction author Ron Goulart is writing TEKWORLD regularly, while ROBOCOP's distinctive artist, Lee Sullivan, will both pencil and ink this intense new series. Lee's experience on ROBOCOP has given him an edge on futuristic storytelling that makes TEKWORLD really come alive. The first five issues are adapted from William Shatner's novel. After the first five issues, Jake will take on cases of corporate corruption and crime in great new stories.

Use the widespread popularity of William Shatner to attract Star Trek fans, science fiction fans or just curious shoppers to your store. There will be co-op advertising opportunities available to you on this title, and all at 75%. There will also be a TEKWORLD banner available as a P.O.P item in SALES TO ASTONISH, so look out for it. The banner should be used as the centerpiece of a TEKWORLD display in your store, so everyone who walks into your store will know where to grab it. This monthly series is going to be a hot book this summer, with the kind of publicity that usually surrounds Mr. Shatner, not to mention the fact that he will be actively promoting TEKWORLD. So make sure you order enough for the rush!



WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD ™ & © 1992 WILLIAM SHATNER

"DEAD MAN'S HAND"

Above: Cover to ***NOMAD #4*** *by S. Clarke Hawbaker and Mark McKenna*

"DEAD MAN'S HAND"

JUNE— **DAREDEVIL #307**
NOMAD #4
PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #45

JULY— **DAREDEVIL #308**
NOMAD #5
PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #46

AUGUST— **DAREDEVIL #309**
NOMAD #6
PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #47

The Kingpin has fallen and plenty of people are trying to take his place as the undisputed leader of crime in the U.S. To do this peacefully, professionally and with as little bloodshed as possible, all of the crime bosses, mercenaries, enforcers, assassins and wise guys gather in Las Vegas to divvy up what is left of the fat man's empire. This is the backdrop to one of the summer's biggest crossovers, a nine issue saga featuring Marvel's toughest and grittiest heroes, the Punisher, Daredevil and Nomad called, "Dead Man's Hand." Dan Chichester, Chuck Dixon, and Fabian Nicieza handle the scripting while John Hebert, S. Clarke Hawbaker, and Scott McDaniel take care of the art chores.

All the major crime figures and general bad guys from the Marvel Universe make the scene, including Chainsaw, the Praetorians, Bushwacker, Slug, Silvermane, the Hand and X-FORCE's Deadpool. Even Baron Von Strucker's children make an appearance—Wolfgang, Madame Hydra, and the X-MEN's Fenris. The different factions of the crime community are trying to figure out who gets what at this Las Vegas crime convention, and as sure as there is no honor among thieves, your customers can bank on plenty of excitement, intrigue and assassination.

The Punisher sees this conference as a barrel with a lot of bad fish in it for the shooting. Daredevil is there to keep an eye on Foggy Nelson, who has been hired by one of the representatives to the conference. Meanwhile, factions of the U.S. government have offered to lose Nomad's criminal file if he succeeds in killing the Slug. As well, NOMAD supporting cast member Legs is there as one of the delegate's dates.

It's well known that Daredevil and the Punisher hate each other's guts, and your customers always eat it up when these two confront each other. With Nomad caught between them, Marvel's newest super star is sure to make a very interesting spoiler. "Dead Man's Hand" is a great chance to tie these three hard-hitting titles together. Make sure to rack these title together in an eye-catching display also featuring such perennial best sellers as the DAREDEVIL/ PUNISHER: CHILD'S PLAY bookshelf. Your customers will never forgive you if they miss even one of these exciting issues. M

MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL

Above: Pinup by Gene Colon
Bottom: Pinup by Ty Templeton

Opposite: Pinup art by John Romita, Jr.

MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL

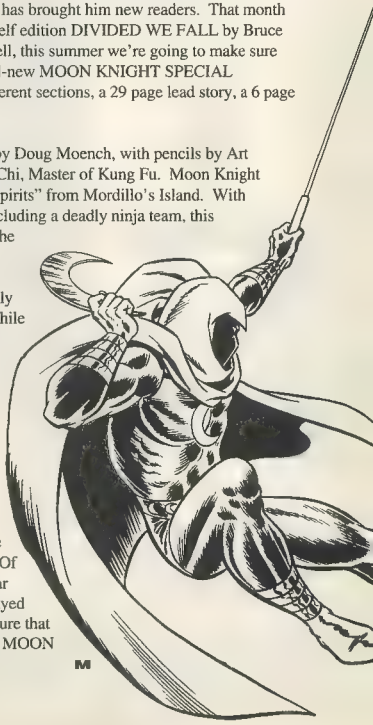
DOUG MOENCH/ART NICHOLS
MIKE HIGGINS/MARIE SEVERIN
PLUS PINUPS BY JOHN ROMITA JR., GENE COLAN, TY TEMPLETON, RON FRENZ AND MORE
SHIPPING AUGUST 11TH FROM RONALDS
48-PAGE OFFSET FORMAT, PRICED AT $2.50

Last April Marvel unveiled the tougher, meaner, grittier Moon Knight, and the response from retailers and fans alike has been tremendous. Marc Spector got a new costume, a new setting, new supporting characters, a new logo, and all of it has brought him new readers. That month the Fist of Khonshu also got a little boost with the bookshelf edition DIVIDED WE FALL by Bruce Jones, Denys Cowan, Tom Palmer and Mike Manley. Well, this summer we're going to make sure Mr. Spector is kept in the spotlight when we present an all-new MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL EDITION. This 48-page extravaganza contains three different sections, a 29 page lead story, a 6 page parody, and a special pinup gallery.

The lead story, "Return to Mordillo Island" is written by Doug Moench, with pencils by Art Nichols and features the return of none other than Shang-Chi, Master of Kung Fu. Moon Knight reluctantly teams with Shang-Chi to recover the "Stolen Spirits" from Mordillo's Island. With kidnapping, terrorists, and bizarre foes in every corner, including a deadly ninja team, this unlikely duo is forced to fight for their very lives against the outlandish, outrageous adversaries readers have come to expect from this maniac's island! While looking for the Spirits, these two very different heroes become increasingly impressed by each other's abilities and resourcefulness, while remaining considerably wary of each other.

The parody story, "Moon Blight, The Motion Picture," is written by Mike Higgins, with art and colors by Marie Severin. This slapstick takeoff on the motion picture industry and super hero movies specifically features Moon Knight as the fall guy.

Also, this issue will contain a specially-commissioned pinup gallery, with art by John Romita Jr., Gene Colan, Don Heck, Ron Frenz, Ty Templeton and more. They are rendered to resemble covers from Marvel's Golden Age! Of course, we trust you to put this one right next to the regular monthly MOON KNIGHT title, and make sure it is displayed with this summer's Annuals. Racking it this way will ensure that even the few of your customers who aren't yet hooked on MOON KNIGHT will add it to their monthly buying list.



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MARVEL ILLUSTRATED SWIMSUIT EDITION

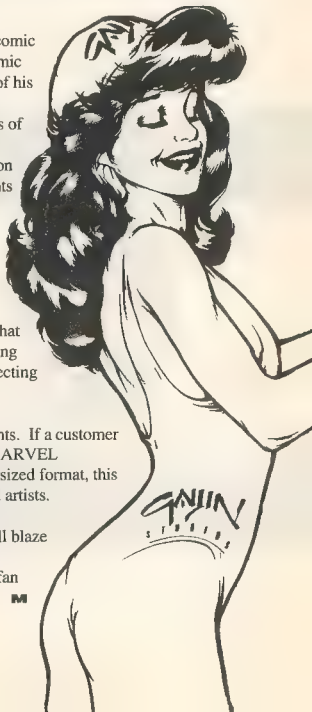
Above: Sersi by Joe Chiodo
Top: Excalibur by Adam Hughes
Opposite: Kitty Pryde by Adam Hughes

MARVEL SWIMSUIT SPECIAL

JIM LEE, WHILCE PORTACIO, ROB LIEFELD, LARRY STROMAN, DALE KEOWN, JOHN ROMITA JR., GEORGE PEREZ, ADAM HUGHES, ALAN DAVIS, AND MANY MORE
SHIPPING JUNE 23RD FROM DANNER
48-PAGE MAGAZINE FORMAT, PRICED AT $3.95

When Marvel has a hit, you retailers are the first to find out from the ringing of the cash register. When you sold out two printings of MARVEL SWIMSUIT SPECIAL 1991, you found out that your customers are interested in seeing Marvel characters reveal new, interesting things about themselves. You can expect bigger sales on this SWIMSUIT SPECIAL because this year's special is twice as good as last year's since Marvel is stuffing this special with nearly double the swimsuit pin-ups!

The artistic line-up for this issue reads like a who's who of the comic book industry. Chances are if a customer buys just one Marvel comic book a month, his or her favorite artist will be illustrating a pinup of his favorite character. Jim Lee, Rob Liefeld, Whilce Portacio, Larry Stroman, George Perez, and many others will be illustrating pinups of everyone's favorite mutants. Dale Keown, Alan Davis, Adam Hughes, Joe Jusko; Andy Kubert, Jae Lee, John Romita, Jr., Jackson Guice, and many other fan favorites will also be lending their talents to this issue. If that doesn't send everyone out the door with a copy of the MARVEL SWIMSUIT SPECIAL in his bag, nothing short of Hulk at the cash register will get them to pick up an issue.



How is Marvel going to gather their greatest heroes and heroines in one place for all these revealing illustrations? How about an engagement party in Wakanda for the Black Panther? What a backdrop it makes for all these bathing beauties and hunks relaxing in the pools, streams, and waterfalls! Just don't ask us who's protecting New York while every Marvel hero is having fun in Africa.

Customers will also get a big kick out of the spoof advertisements. If a customer enjoyed MARVEL YEAR IN REVIEW, point them toward the MARVEL SWIMSUIT SPECIAL. Presented in the same 48-page magazine sized format, this issue is a veritable collector's item of Marvel's best characters and artists.

This summer will be a scorcher and MARVEL SWIMSUIT will blaze off your shelves again this year when your customers see what an incredible array of talent Marvel has on the book. And, is there a fan who can miss seeing Ghost Rider in a swimsuit? M

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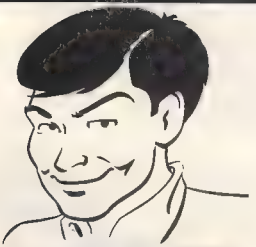

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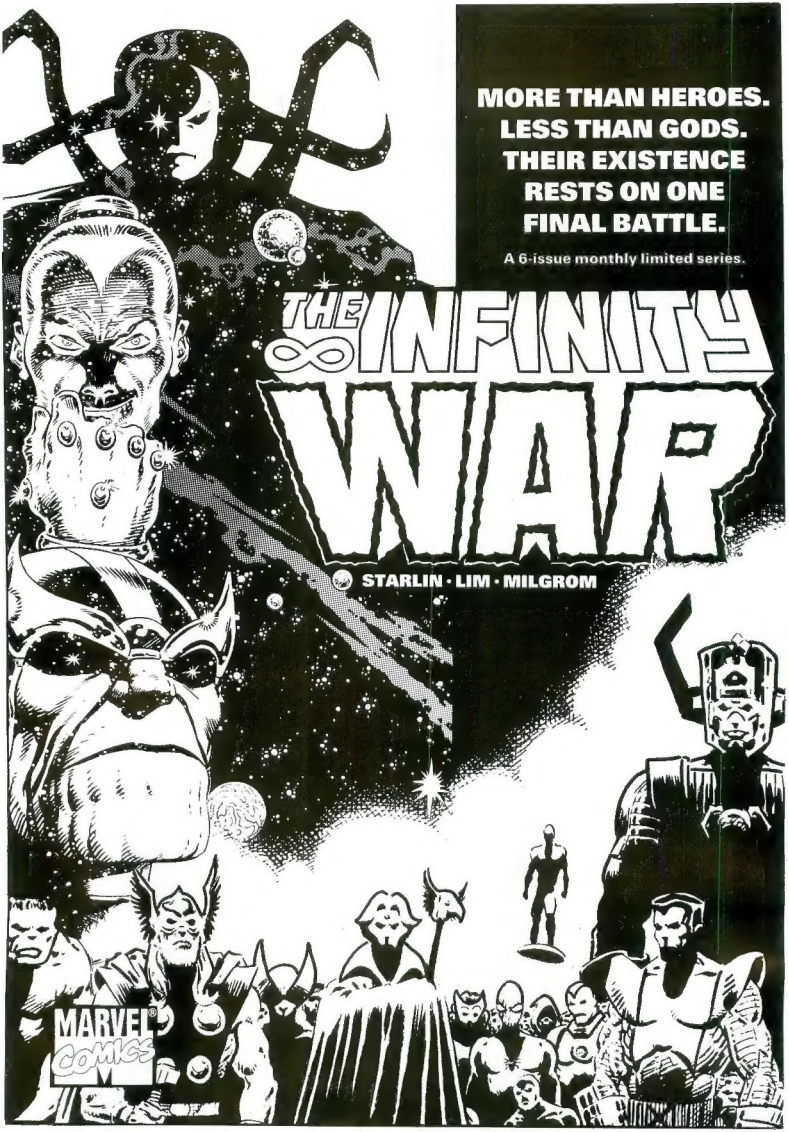

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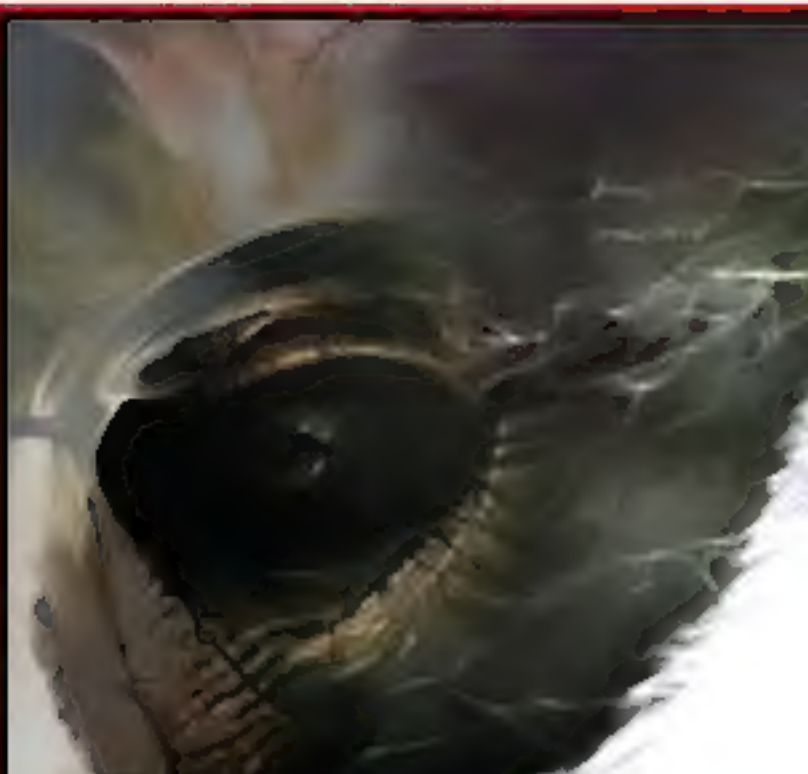

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